

EFFICACY OF RADIUM ON CANCER DEBATED

Dr. John B. Deaver, Noted Surgeon, Arouses Discussion by His Views.

OTHERS CONSERVATIVE

Dr. F. C. Wood Believes There Can Be No Certainty for Next Ten Years.

USEFUL IN ONE TYPE

Solution, He Thinks, Lies in Combination of Surgery, Radium and X-Ray.

Where does radium stand in the treatment of cancer?

The new president of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. John B. Deaver, answered that question most pessimistically when he addressed that body in Philadelphia on October 24. He told of instances in which radium had failed when it was most sorely needed. He thought that in many cases it had worked more harm than good.

"I almost hesitate to express," he said, "the fear I have that nothing can be looked for from radium in the future to be of any advantage in the treatment of cancer."

Such is the view of a well known surgeon. This New York Herald asked Dr. Francis Carter Wood what he thought of it. Dr. Wood, a noted pathologist, is director of the Institute of Cancer Research at Columbia University and an attending physician at St. Luke's Hospital. His life work is the study of cancer. He uses the X-ray and radium in his own practice in certain classes of cases. Surgical cases he turns over to surgeons.

Five Year Period as Test.

He is himself a conservative in his judgment of the results of the ray treatment, but he has found that it "works" under certain conditions, and he says that "a combination of surgery, the X-ray and radium will probably be generally adopted in the future."

"We cannot be dogmatic," Dr. Wood said. "What radium will do we don't know, for in studying its effect on cancer we have to wait many years to find out whether the cancer has been cured. Surgeons generally hold that a period of five years must elapse after an operation before they can be sure the patient is all right. Occasionally a late return is seen after a cancer has been quiet for five years following an operation, but the five year period is commonly accepted as a test."

"It has been scarcely five years, however, since the use of large quantities of radium in the treatment of tumors began. The same is true of the X-ray. We cannot be dogmatic about either of them, for cases have not been subjected to the modern treatment and technique long enough to justify a final statement. Such a statement probably cannot be made until ten years from now."

"There is no question that radium has cured some—yes, many—tumors of the face, which, when treated by other means, would have been fatal. It has been used in the proper manner. Probably nine-tenths of cancers of the face can be cured by either radium or the X-ray. The other tenth, though they look like the rest, are found to be very resistant, and it is much better to cut them out. Examining this refractory one-tenth under the microscope, we find a little different kind of cell in the cancer; a kind that resists radiation treatment. But it is difficult to judge the result of the treatment of even such face tumors. They are slow growing, and I have seen them return nine or ten years after their removal by freezing or the application of caustics."

"This shows why we must wait so long and be so conservative in our statements. Experimental work with cancers in mice shows it, too. We have found that caustic treatment of a tumor slows down the growth of the tumor so that instead of reappearing in a week, as it might otherwise do, it does not reappear for three months. And three months is the life of a mouse is equivalent to ten years in the life of a human being."

Internal Cancer Treatment.

"A large number of tumors which grow about the bones and joints cannot be cured by radium or the X-ray in any quantity, as they require larger doses than the surrounding tissue can stand. The same is true of many internal cancers—for example, in the lungs, the stomach, the liver or the intestines. For, if we apply to a tumor in these regions a dose sufficient to kill all the cancer cells the radiation will so damage the rest of the body that the patient will die. There is at present no undisputed record showing that any internal cancer has been permanently cured by either radium or the X-ray. If we except a few instances of cancer of the womb. There are hundreds of cases in which the patient is apparently well two or three years after the application, but this is not a sufficient period of time to justify us in regarding the cure as certain."

"The dosage of radiation required to kill cancer cells has been determined in the Crocker research laboratory by experiments with tumors in animals. In some cases it is quite low, and tumors of this sort in the human body could be destroyed. But the trouble is that by no means yet known can you determine beforehand which tumors will remain quiescent a long time after treatment or will permanently disappear. We have no means, microscope or otherwise, of deciding whether a tumor will disappear or whether it will resist the rays."

"Therefore, since we do know that surgery will accomplish certain definite things, that a certain number of cancers of the stomach, intestine, breast, lip, and so on, will remain permanently cured after removal, no physician feels to-day that—"

his assumption, which was that an engine weighing only two pounds to the horsepower could be built. Then the gasoline engine came along and exploded the assumption.

Education Is Needed.
"To say that the X-ray or radium will not be of value in the treatment of cancer ten years from now is wholly unjustified. The future probably lies in the thorough education of the public, thorough examinations repeated every six months or year of the body as well as the teeth, so that cancers when they exist may be discovered in the individual stage. When discovered and promptly cut out a permanent cure often results. If they have grown a little larger or are difficult of removal they will probably be treated by partial removal, followed by intense, repeated X-ray and radium exposure."

"Radium, you know, has a positive advantage over the X-ray in that it is virtually possible to place a tube which can be inserted in a cavity of the body, while the X-ray must be applied from the outside through the skin. Radium has, however, little effect on the distant growth of a tumor, while the X-ray holds it, while the X-ray is much more penetrating."

A combination of surgery, the X-ray and radium will probably be generally adopted in the future.
"The difficulty with the present situation is not that surgery is so ineffective but that the mass of people neglect obvious cancer for so long a period that the surgeon's hands are tied. This is due partly to ignorance, partly to a belief that it is a disgraceful disease, partly to a feeling that it is hereditary, which it is not, and partly to pessimism as to the surgical result, which is fostered by quacks as part of their propaganda based on the imperfect surgery of thirty years ago."

"Treatment of cancer will be defective until the patient goes to the doctor early and unless the doctor insures that the patient's attention is called to these two points that the present agitation is being carried on by the Society for the Control of Cancer, with a national 'cancer week' beginning October 20."

"In these days of frankness of speech regarding important matters it is well to say that there is one type of cancer, which is apparently very susceptible to the influence of radium. That is cancer of the womb. In the future it will probably prove to be the most important field for radium, for while the number of permanent cures will probably be small and surgery will presumably be employed in the early cases, late cancer of this organ is so favorably affected by radium that its general use is justified. Even in desperate cases remarkable benefit is obtained, often lasting for a number of years."

It was the type of case, and also cancer of the skin, that aroused extraordinary enthusiasm and unjustifiable optimism in the minds of those who worked with radium in the early days. Dr. Deaver's attitude represents a swing back from the optimistic period, and this swing results in a complete denial of any beneficial effect from radiation. The truth lies between the two positions. But Dr. Deaver is nearer right than are many of the overenthusiastic users of radium. The latter publish only their few successes and forget their thousands of failures."

Dr. Wood said that as radium gives off the more powerful beta ray, as well as the gamma ray, which is the X-ray, the X-ray would not be used on cancer at all if enough radium were available. But there are less than 200 grams of radium in the world and the price is \$110,000 a gram.

SOVIET JAILED WIFE OF U. S. MAN AS SPY

Seized When Her Husband, Officer of Near East Relief, Leaves Tiflis.

TIFLIS, Soviet Georgia, Sept. 29.—(Associated Press).—What happens to the foreigner locked up as a political suspect even under the supposedly liberal rule of this Soviet state was judged from the case of Mrs. Lianna Edwards, the Russian wife of James Edwards of Youngstown, Ohio, who has been released from the efforts of the Dutch Consulate to get her out of the country.

Mrs. Edwards had a perfectly good passport, obtained as the wife of James Edwards, whom she married here sixteen months ago while he was an officer of the Near East Relief. He went away on business, so he told her, and has not since returned.

When Georgia passed again into the hands of Moscow last March, after several years as an independent republic, Mrs. Edwards fled with many others to Batumi, but there decided to remain and take her chances.

She worked for a time as translator of English under the new Soviet and then in August was arrested by the police, charged with being a foreign spy. Money was offered to her to go to Constantinople and work for the Soviet. This she refused and so was sent here and imprisoned.

In prison most of her clothes were taken away, ostensibly to be burned during the cholera epidemic, and those she had on were mutilated. She did not have a bed but was told to sleep on the floor. Her food, so she related later, consisted of a pound of bad bread a day, with hot water in the morning and thin soup at night. She scrubbed floors during the day. Also she said she was told she would be shot as a bourgeois.

What aroused the special hate and attention of the Bolsheviks was her maiden name of Romanoff. She stated that her mother was an American, Lianna Davenport, and that she was born in Tsarskoye, where her father was Governor-General. Because of the name Romanoff she was suspected of being related to the family of the late Czar.

She gave her last possessions of jewelry as a bribe to a released woman prisoner and got word to the Dutch Consul, who after various demands obtained her release. For her safety she was removed to the now unoccupied American Consulate and food is being provided by the Near East Relief.

Learn of the Vale of Paradise—Where Dreams Come True
This wonder city is having a magic growth, and a million dollars in municipal improvements are authorized for this year. Every kind of business opening here. We have seventeen miles of protected water front, with gorgeously beautiful home sites. Wonderful homes. Wonderful velvety lawns. Wonderful flowers in semi-tropical profusion. Fishing supreme. Every day you can catch the big fellows until your back aches and your hands blister. Paradise for motor boats, with hundreds of miles of protected waterways with wonder spots to visit. Finest motoring roads in the South. Bathing in bay and gulf wonderful. Healthiest city in America, with no business for doctors. Greatest golf course in America under construction. Coolest place in America in summer, delightful in winter. You may own a beautiful home here, with a perpetual income, at practically no investment. Grasp the opportunity of a lifetime. Address THE MAYOR, Valparaiso, Fla.

LESSONS OF WAR IN NEW DEFENCE

Plan Provides First for an Efficient Staff Trained in Peace Time.

NO CENTRALIZED CAMPS

Foundation Work on Great National Scheme of Mobilization Already Done.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Two lessons of the world war, learned at heavy cost, are sharply emphasized in a War Department bulletin soon to be issued giving the first official picture of the new national defense structure projected in the reorganized army of the United States.

One lesson comes direct from the battlefields of France. It is that efficient staff work is vital to modern military operations, and with it goes the corollary that staff functions cannot be learned over night.

The other comes from the wartime din and confusion of the centralized training camps at home. It is that efficient mobilization of the nation's fighting strength can be carried out only as a decentralized process through agencies set up in times of peace.

Realization that these lessons must be worked into the new military policy if the nation is to avoid the confusion and costly confusion which preceded past mobilizations were to be avoided has marked the effort of the War Department. The bulletin shows that it has attempted to write regulations under the revised National Defense act that would furnish a clean out scheme for war mobilization without violating national traditions against the use of force or creating machinery that would impose heavy burdens in peace times upon the taxpayers.

To Profit by Experience.
The project undertaken probably is the most far reaching military effort the nation has ever attempted in peace times.

The foundation work has been done. All over the country decentralized machinery is being set up capable, its designers believe, of getting the nation on a war footing with little delay and confusion. Yet it is felt that the nation at large and even the most important links in the new defense chain, the Regular Army, the National Guard and the Officers' Reserve Corps do not appreciate fully what is being done. Col. John McA. Palmer, the officer assigned to aid Congress in framing the legislation making it all possible, and who has devoted himself to a study of the subject, was called upon to furnish the document, and his work is to go to all parts of the new army as a means of preventing misunderstanding.

Col. Palmer points out that at the conclusion of previous wars the United States scrapped all it had learned in battle and demobilized without any attempt to carry those costly lessons on to younger generations for their protection and aid in time of war. Veterans of the civil war, schooled in soldier craft, skilled in staff work and the handling of mighty forces with minimum confusion in movement and minimum losses in battle, went back to civil life, he said, and lost all touch with military matters. When the war with Spain came their knowledge was lost to the men of 1918. It was necessary to build again from the ground up, and 1917 saw this waste repeated, the bulletin asserts.

The purpose of the new scheme of welding the regulars, the National Guard and the organized reserves into the Army of the United States in peace times is defined by Col. Palmer as follows:

"It is primarily the object of our new law to perpetuate the framework of the organization developed in the world war, so that its tremendous cost can be funded as a permanent investment for all time."

Tied such a system as is now well advanced toward establishment been erected after the civil war, the officer adds, "in 1918 more divisions than were needed for the war with Spain could have been in the field within twenty-four hours after the declaration of hostilities."

Centralized Process Demoralizing.
"Mobilization in 1917," Col. Palmer continues, "would have proceeded as a decentralization process and not as a great centralized process, upsetting the economic life of the nation. It would not have been necessary to spend millions for great concentrated training camps or to overburden the railroads with unclassified personnel and material in order to organize and train and equip and provide officers all at the same time. Such a national organization must have saved months in time and millions in money."

Col. Palmer points out that Stonewall Jackson alone of leaders on either side of the civil war entered the contest with knowledge of what staff work meant. He had studied Napoleon's troop orders, and in the first battle of the war, Col. Palmer says, "showed that even raw troops can stand like a stone wall if the prevalent ravens does not extend to the craftsmanship of the commander."

To meet such a situation, the new

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MOTHER!
Move Child's Bowels with "California Fig Syrup"

Hurry mother! Even a sick child loves the "Fruity" taste of "California Fig Syrup" and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful to-day may prevent a sick child to-morrow. If constipated, bilious, feverish, fretful, has cold, colic, or if stomach is sour, tongue coated, breath bad, remember a good cleansing of the little bowels is often all that is necessary. Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

military policy imposes on the regular army the duty of training in peace times the men on whom must of necessity fall the burden of command and direction of great forces in war. From this arises the present distribution of the regulars into divisional areas which underlay the corps and army areas structure. It is not expected, officers say, that more than a division ever will be brought together in peace times, but through practice in handling a divisional unit of 20,000 or so men training leaders to handle corps or armies in battle.

From its role as staff college, also, comes the demand of the army for a larger proportion of officers than the actual enlisted strength of any probable regular force would require. These extra officers would play little part in the actual peace time employment of the army as such or even in a small emergency that required only the regulars to meet the nation's needs. They would be under training in staff functions and in turn be passing on their knowledge to the National Guardsmen and reserve officers and the whole scheme of keeping the country up to date in a military sense under arms at any time rests on this provision, it is asserted.

BIRTHS IN PARIS INCREASE.
Many More Marriages Also Take Place Than Before War.

Paris, Oct. 29.—Though Paris is yet dealing with a housing crisis, the residents seem determined that the existing homes shall be well filled, if one may judge by the steadily increasing birth rate. The records show many more marriages and births than before the war and also a reduction in the infant mortality in the crowded areas of the city.

There were 31,885 births in Paris during the first six months of 1921, as compared with 24,309 in the same period of 1913 and 27,906 in the first half of 1920. The number of marriages in all of 1913 was only 31,918, while last year there were 33,829, and there have been 26,383 weddings in the first half of 1921. Parisians are well pleased with the prospect for the next census.

BLIND 57 YEARS, YET BUILT A CITY

Gen. A. R. Johnson of Burnet, Texas, One of the Figures of Civil War.

STILL HARD AT WORK

At 88 He Looks Back Over Practically All of the History of Texas.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
AUSTIN, Texas, Oct. 29.—Blindness is a serious impediment to most men, but it did not prevent General A. R. Johnson of Burnet, Texas, from accomplishing whatever purpose he had in mind—and he has had many purposes. After he had lost the sight of both eyes the General built the city of Marble Falls, made several trips East to interest capital and succeeded; built a water power plant, a school house, a shoe factory, a cotton mill, secured a railroad for his town, fought Indians and raised and educated six children he never has seen. He also has taken a prominent part in Texas politics and civic work since losing his sight. The General is now 88 years old and is as enterprising as ever.

Johnson's record in the war between the States was as brilliant as his work after the conflict had closed. It was along in 1864 that he lost his sight from explosion of a shell. Johnson is one of the few remaining generals of the Confederacy and has been a resident of Texas for more than sixty years.

When Johnson came to Texas before the civil war, Kentucky being his native State, he had charge of a section of the Overland Mail Route, one of the links

in the Butterfield Mail Route between New York and San Francisco. The Comanche Indians often attacked and killed the station agents, and in the fights with them Johnson always took a hand.

When the war came he hurried to Kentucky and joined Gen. Forrest. Johnson had two brothers in the Federal army and having been absent in Texas so long it was supposed his sentiments were similar and so he obtained valuable information for Forrest. It was at this time that Johnson earned the sobriquet "Stonewall Johnson." Learning that there were 500 stacks of guns at Newberg, Ind., he took but thirty men across the Ohio River, found some broken down wagons and joints of stovepipe. Mounting the guns on the wagon wheels, he was able to deceive the people at Newberg into thinking that he had several powerful cannon trained upon their town and when he demanded of the Federal officers that they surrender their supplies they did so promptly.

The General lost his eyes during a fight at Grubbs Cross Roads, Kentucky, and was left for dead upon the battlefield. His obituary was published all over the South, but the Federals picked him up with other wounded and sent him to Boston Harbor prison. Later he was exchanged, and spent the remainder of the war period filling cartridges. After Lee surrendered Johnson and his wife returned to Texas, where he still found his old enemy, the Comanches, on the war path, and he accompanied several expeditions against them. Then he began his plans to build Marble Falls, liking the location because of the falls in the Colorado River at that point and the natural dam. Thus the "Blind Man's Town," with its fine water power plant and factories, became a reality.

The General, though living at Burnet, a short distance from Marble Falls, takes great interest in the welfare of the projects begun by him, and is still planning new enterprises.

RAISE FUND TO STUDY DRY SITUATION IN U. S.

Business Men of Sydney, N. S. W., Seek Economic Data.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Oct. 29.—The question of prohibition and restrictions upon the intoxicating liquor traffic has aroused great interest and comment throughout the Commonwealth and a

A great amount of speculation also has arisen here over whether the Australian Court will decide whether 6 P. M. to 11 P. M. is the legal closing hour for hotel bars in Sydney. The 6 P. M. closing was a war time measure and it was to cease being effective within a certain period after the war. A subsequent act, however, provided that a referendum should be held on the continuance of the early closing hour. The present Labor Government announced that because of the expense involved it had declined to take the question before the people.

group of Sydney business men, including several members of Parliament, has been formed and subscribed \$1,400 to be expended in the United States and Canada in an effort to determine what effect prohibition has upon business efficiency.

The business men plan to spend a year in obtaining and considering opinions from the United States and Canada, and the conclusions are to be published here.

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